

SECRET INVASION™

MARVEL

WWW.MARVEL.COM

45

**BENDIS
CHEUNG
DELL
PONSOR**

THE NEW AVENGERS®



And there came a day, a day unlike any other, when Earth's Mightiest Heroes found themselves united against a common threat! On that day, the Avengers were born, to fight the foes no single super hero could withstand!

THE NEW AVENGERS

One year ago...

Wanda Maximoff, the Scarlet Witch, experienced a total nervous breakdown after losing control of her reality-altering powers and Magneto, having lost the war against the humans that he sacrificed the well-being of his children for, is forced to watch his daughter suffer the loss of control over both her powers and her grip on reality.

Charles Xavier, unable to help the Scarlet Witch on his own, gathers the Avengers and X-Men to decide what to do with her. Refusing to accept that killing her is the only solution, the gathered heroes return to Genosha to confront Wanda in hopes of discovering what it is she wants.

Then the world burns away to white.

Wanda transforms the entire world into a utopia where mutants are the dominant species and most everyone is given their true heart's desire. Her father's dream has become a twisted reality—he is lord and master of the ruling class, the House of M. Only Wolverine seems to remember the world as it was and gathers his fellow heroes to try to bring reality back.

What no one knew was that even during this phantasm that almost destroyed reality, shape-shifting Skrulls had already infiltrated the super heroes' teams. Both Jessica Drew, a.k.a. Spider-Woman, and Hank Pym, a.k.a. Yellowjacket, were Skrull sleeper agents — and this was the break in ranks they were hoping for.♦♦

BRIAN MICHAEL BENDIS
WRITER

JIM CHEUNG
PENCILS

JOHN DELL &
JAY LEISTEN
INKS

JUSTIN PONSOR
COLORIST

RS & COMICRAFT'S ALBERT DESCHESNE
LETTERER

ALEKSI BRICLOT
COVER ARTIST

ANTHONY DIAL
PRODUCTION

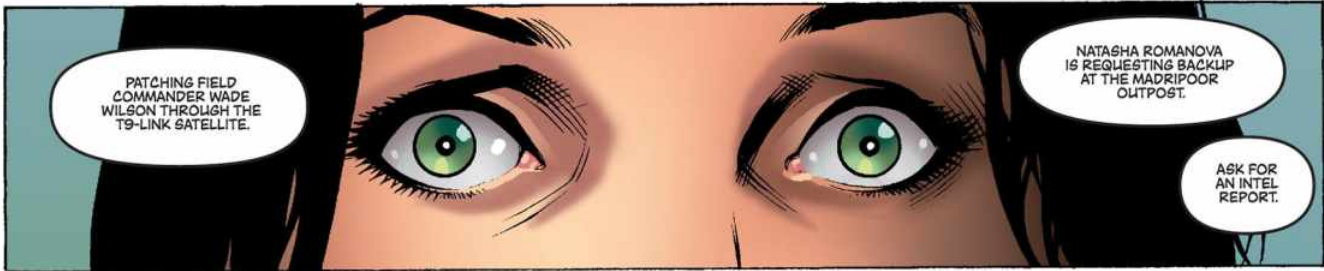
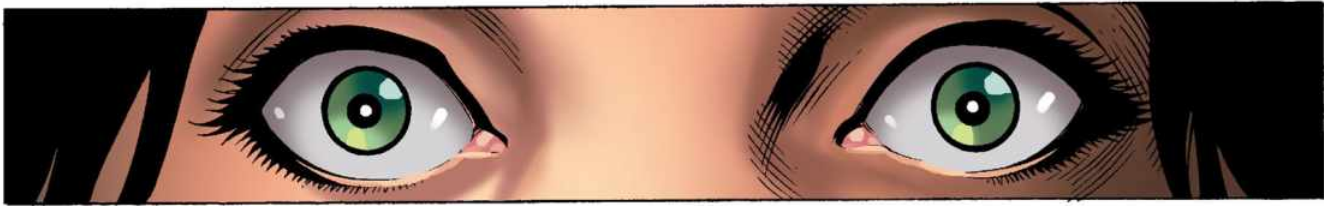
JEANINE SCHAEFER
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

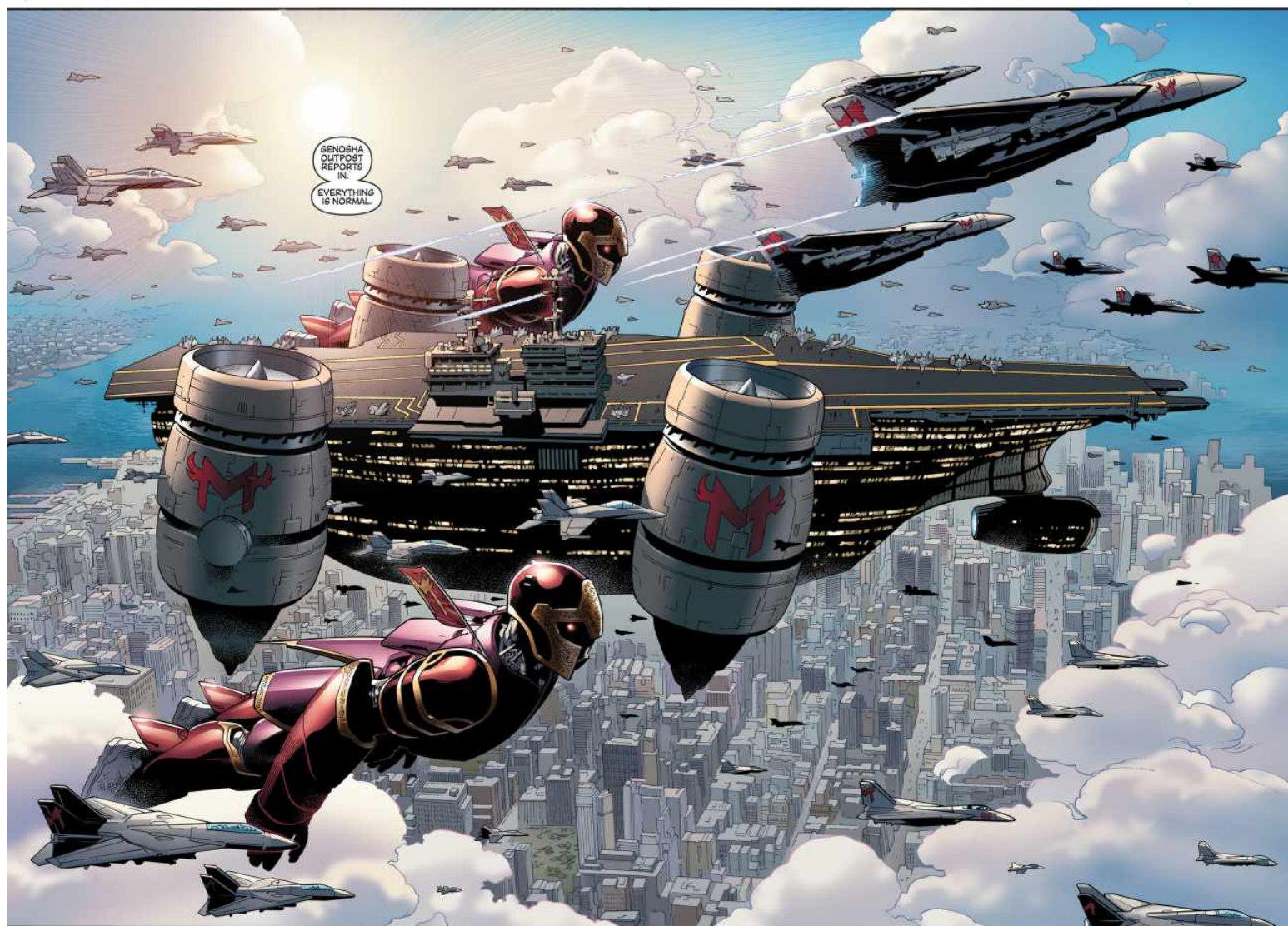
TOM BREVOORT
EDITOR

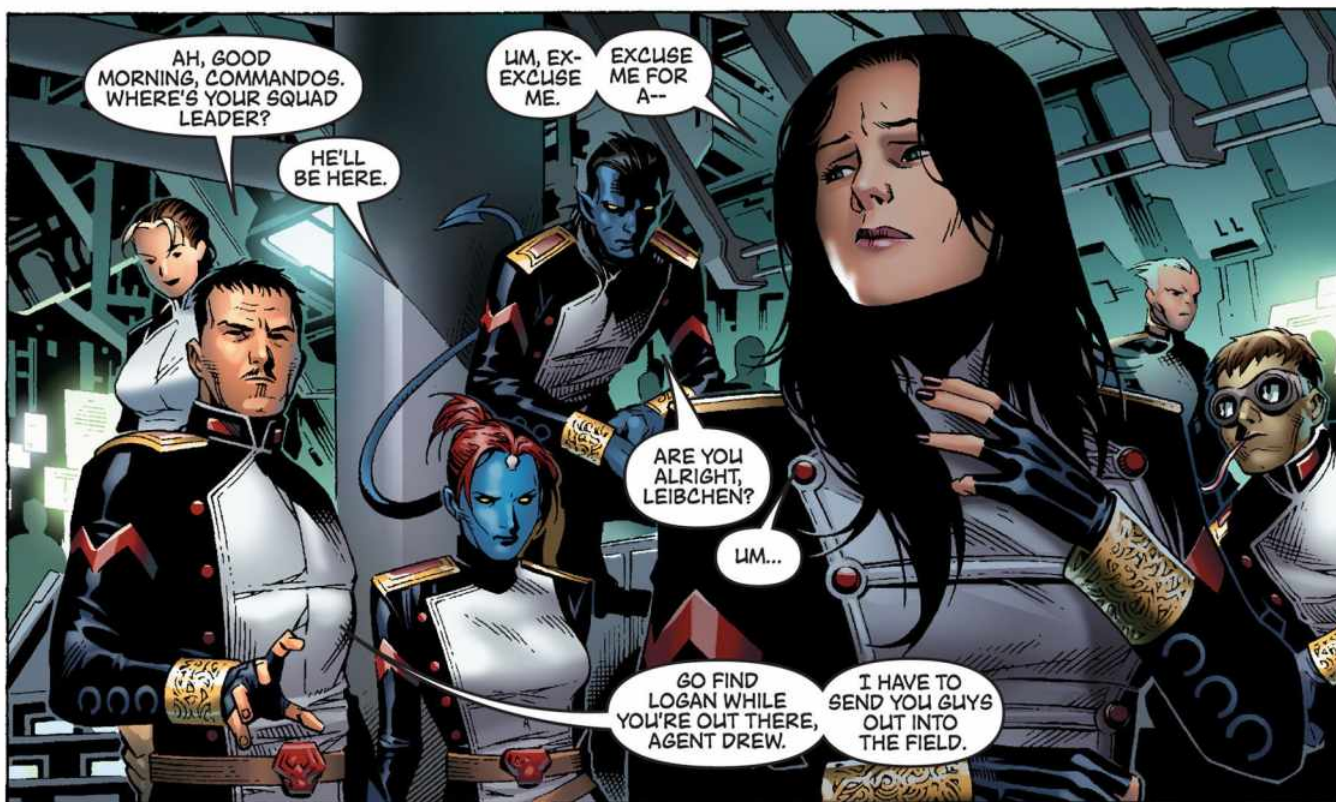
JOE QUESADA
EDITOR IN CHIEF

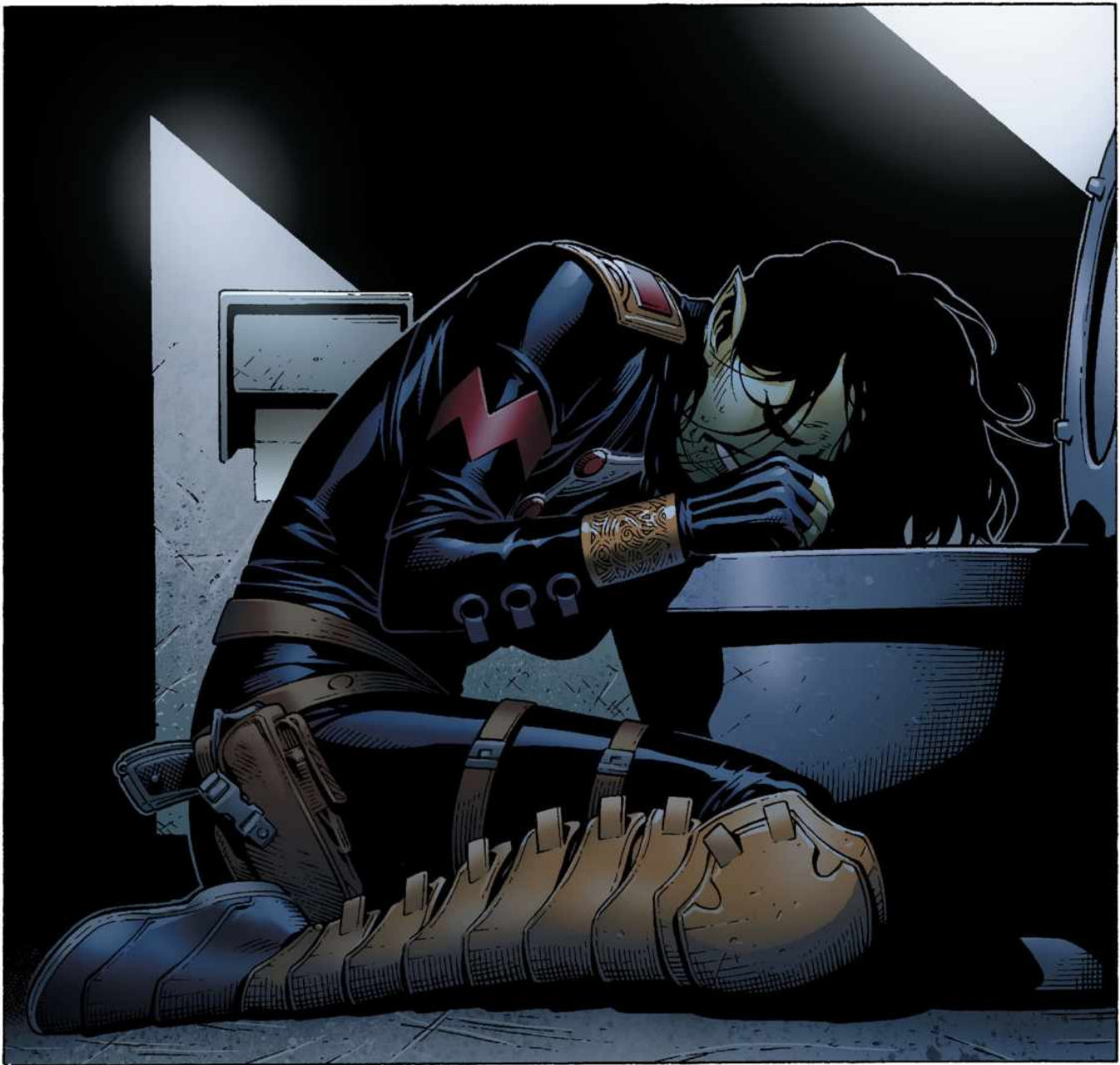
DAN BUCKLEY
PUBLISHER



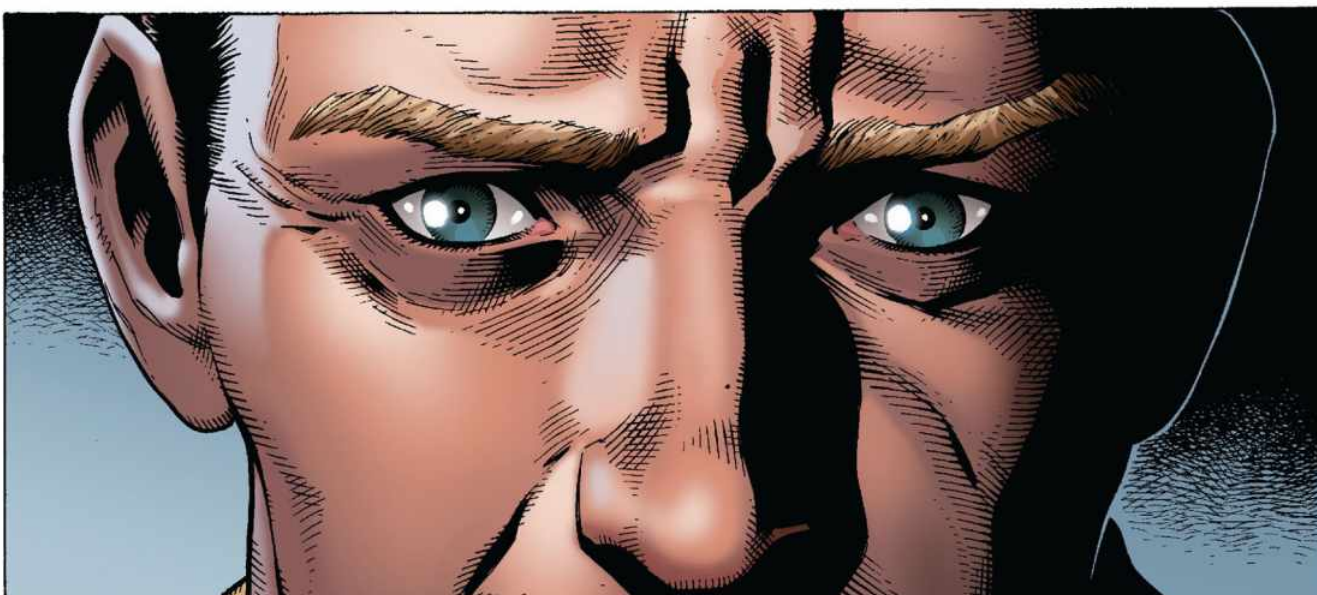
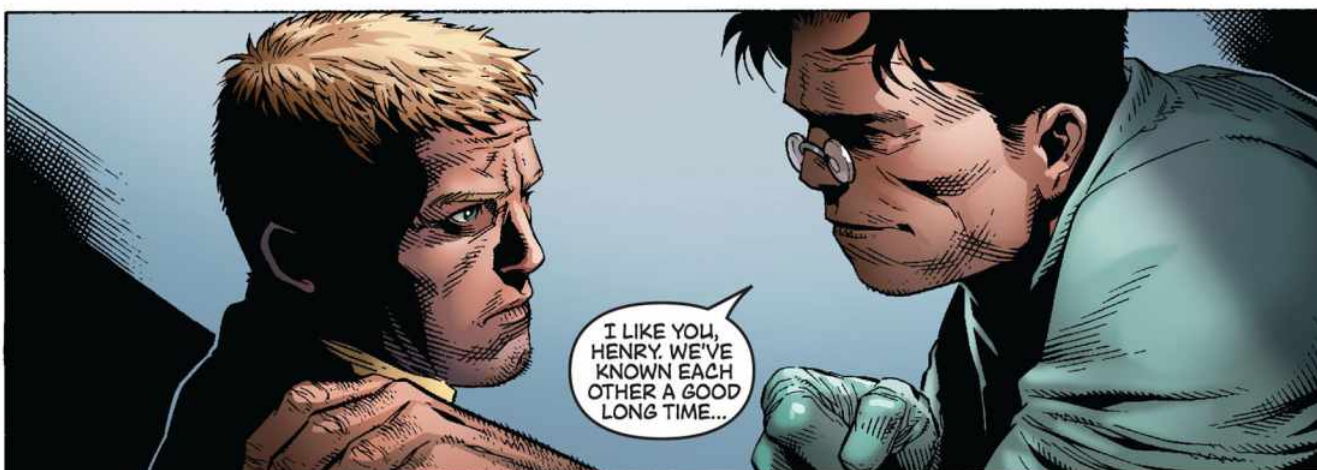






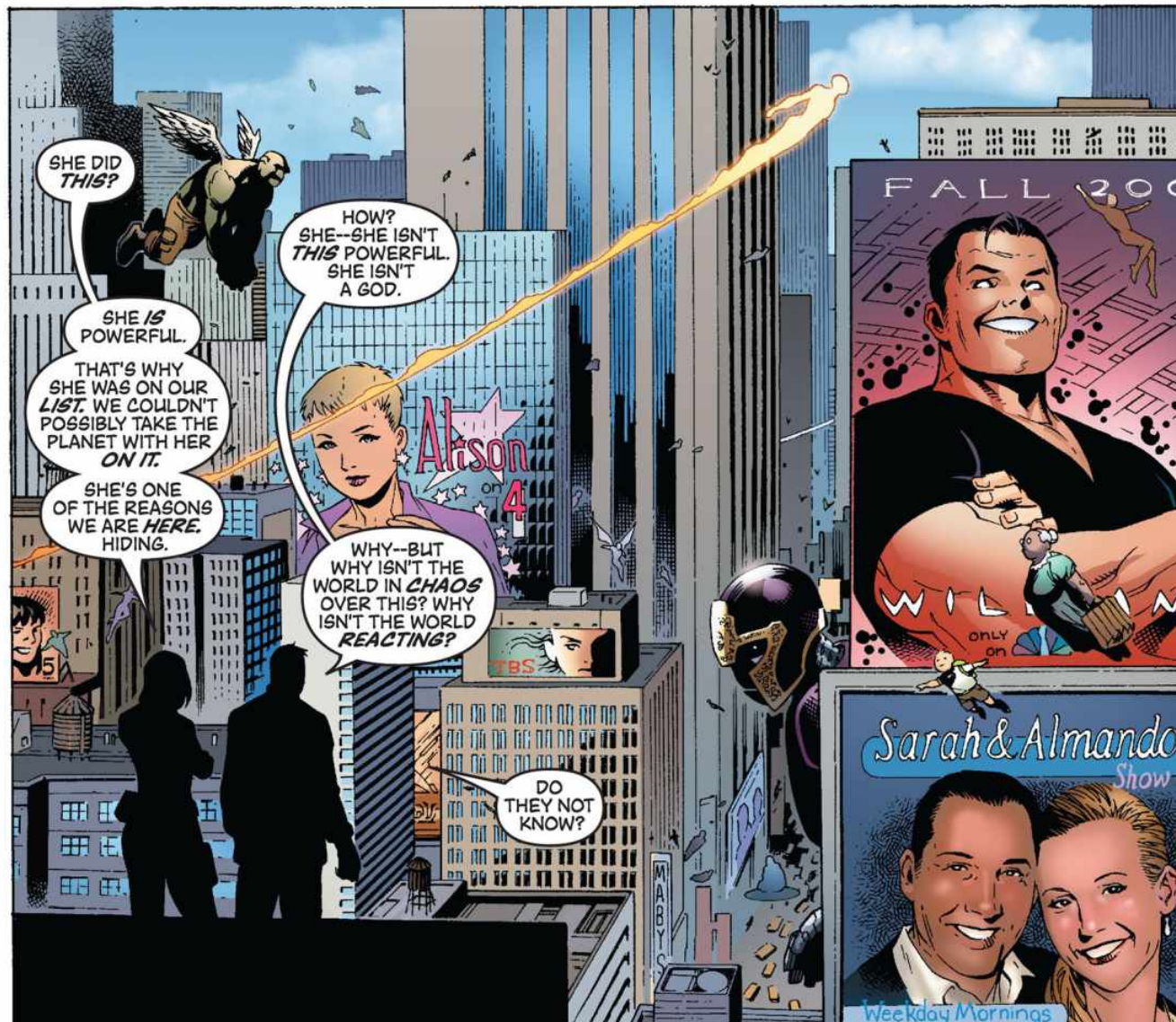














LOOK.

THEY
LIVE HAPPILY.
SATIATED.

THIS MANY
MUTANTS.

THE SKRULL
ARMADA CAN'T
BATTLE AGAINST
THIS.

THIS IS THE
OPPOSITE OF
WHAT WE WERE
SENT HERE
TO DO.



LISTEN
TO ME...

I SAW WITH
MY OWN EYES THAT
WOLVERINE, LOGAN,
SAW RIGHT THROUGH
THIS ILLUSION.

THEY
SENT US
TO HUNT
HIM.

THERE
ARE OTHERS.
THERE HAVE
TO BE.

LIKE
US.

THE
ILLUSION IS--
IT FEELS PAPER
THIN. IT HAS
CRACKS IN IT.

WE--*WE*
ARE THE
CRACKS
IN IT.



THIS *WILL* CRUMBLE
AND WORD WILL
GET OUT.

WE'LL MAKE
SURE THE WORD
GETS OUT THAT
A *MUTANT* DID
THIS.

AND *WHEN*
THE WORD GETS
OUT, A WAR AGAINST
THE MUTANTS WILL BE
IMMEDIATE AND
FIERCE.

THE MUTANTS WILL
BE DECEATED AND
IMPRISONED...

THE SCARLET
WITCH WILL BE
EXECUTED...

AND THEN
WE WILL KNOW
IT IS OUR
TIME.

AND IF THIS PROVES
ANYTHING, ANYTHING
AT ALL...

IT'S THAT AS LONG
AS THEY ARE LEFT ALONE
TO EAT, SLEEP, WATCH THEIR
TV AND FORNICATE, MOST
OF THE HUMAN RACE WILL
GO ALONG WITH WHATEVER
THEY ARE TOLD
TO DO.



THEY WILL EASILY
BUCKLE TO THE
WILL OF THE SKRULL
EMPIRE.

YOU--YOU ARE
REALLY LOOKING
AT THIS IN AN
OPTIMISTIC
LIGHT.

I CAN'T
SEE HOW
YOU CAN
JUST--



I HAVE
TO--AND I DO
BELIEVE MY
WORDS.

I KNOW
MY JOB
HERE IS
CLEAR.

YOUR
JOB?

FIND WANDA
MAXIMOFF AND
BLOW HER
BRAINS OUT.

SHE'S IN
GENOSHA.
IT'S NOT A
SECRET.



THEN I
FIND AN
OPENING AND
I TAKE IT.

WE'LL GO
TOGETHER.

NO.

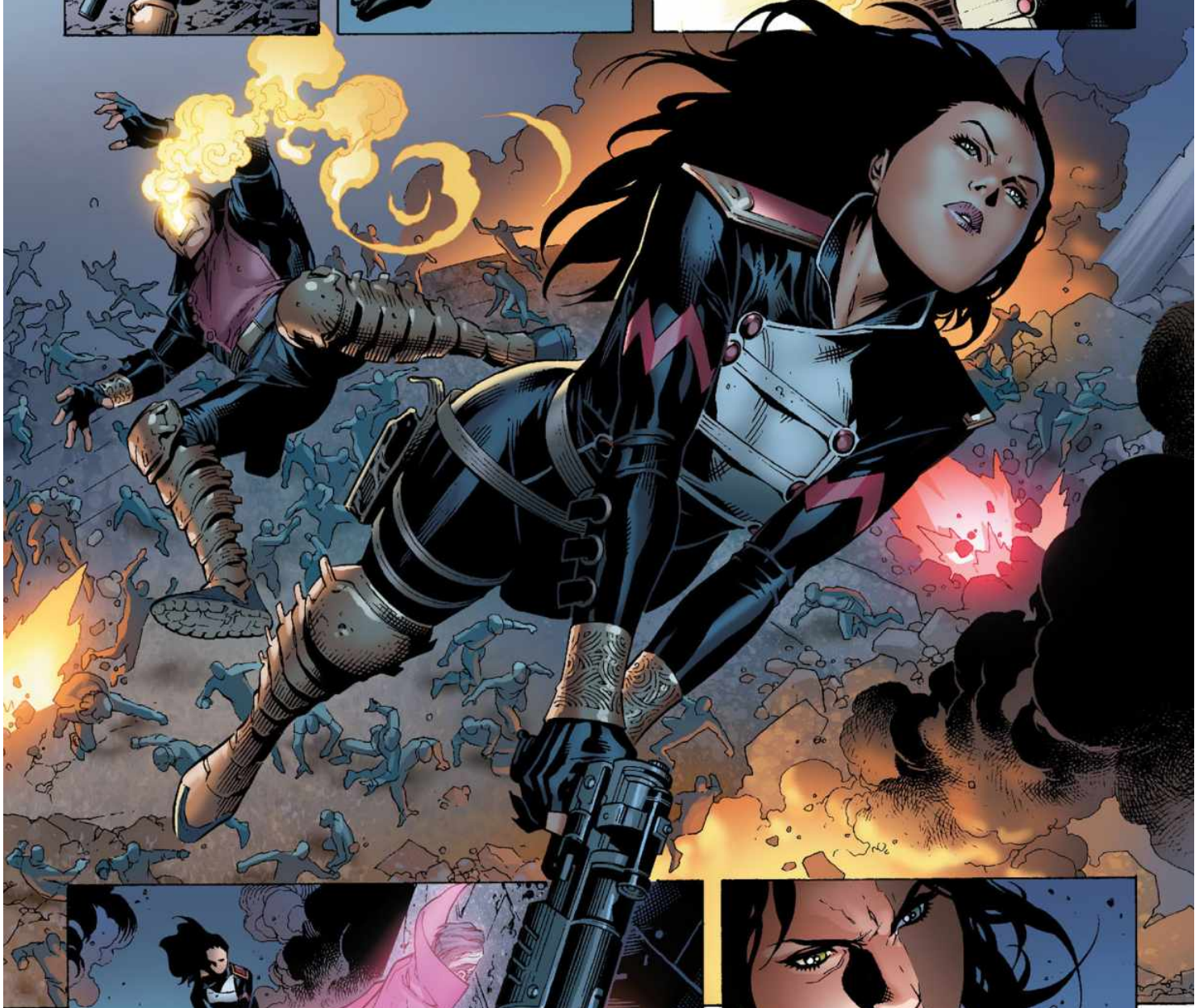
BUT
MAGNETO--

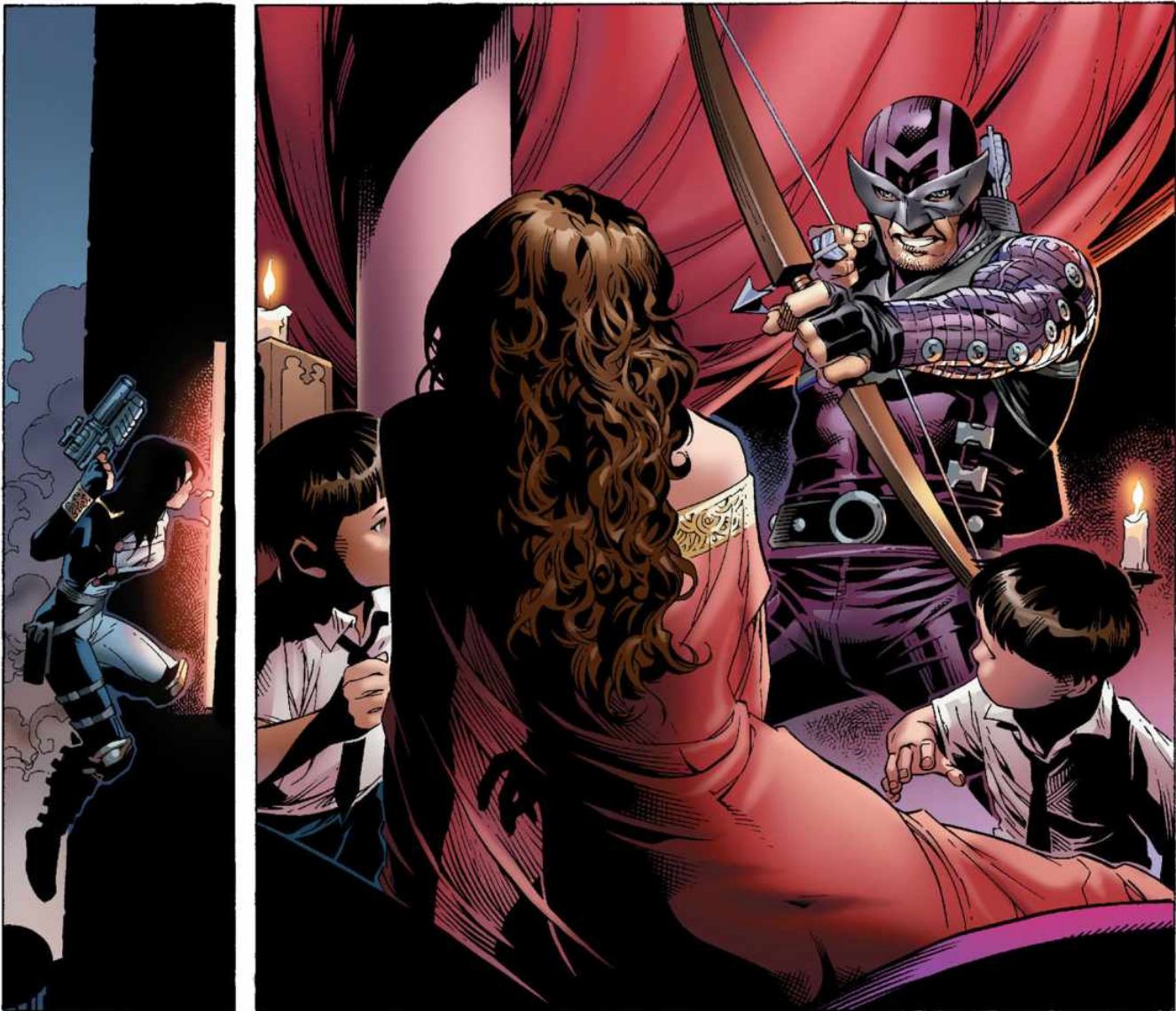
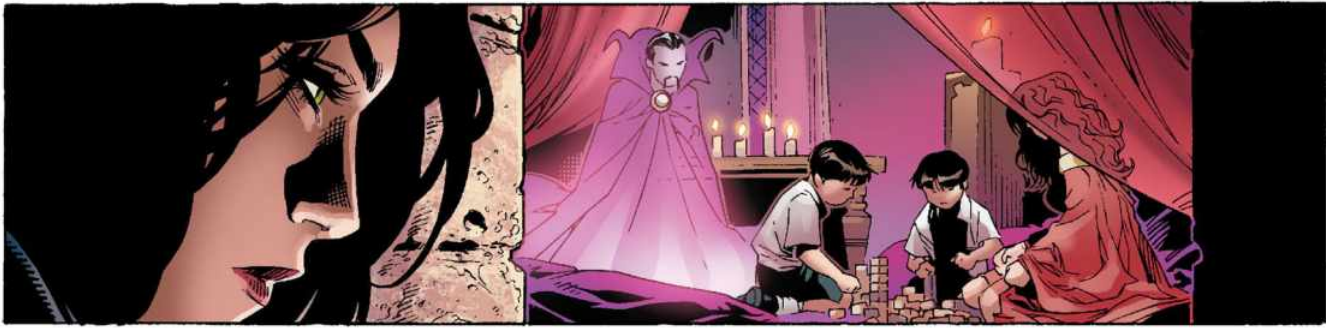
YOU'LL
STAY HERE.
YOU'LL DO
NOTHING.

SOMEONE
HAS TO TAKE OVER
THE OPERATIONS IF
I DON'T MAKE
IT BACK.

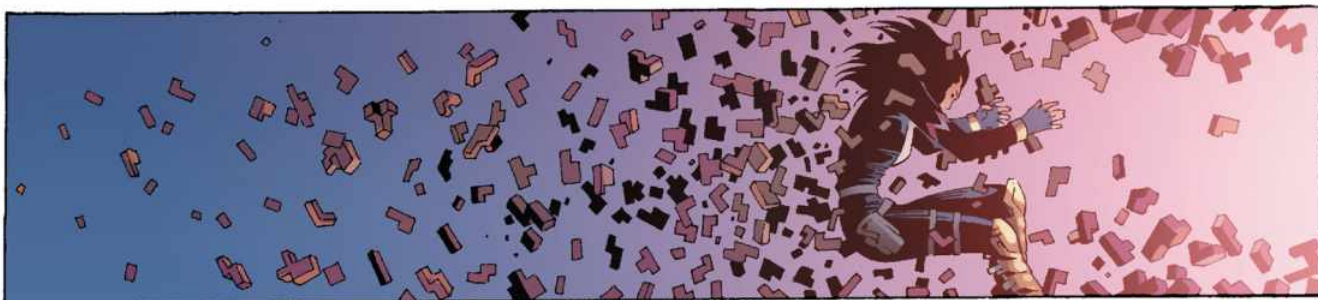
HOW WILL
YOU GET TO
GENOSHA?

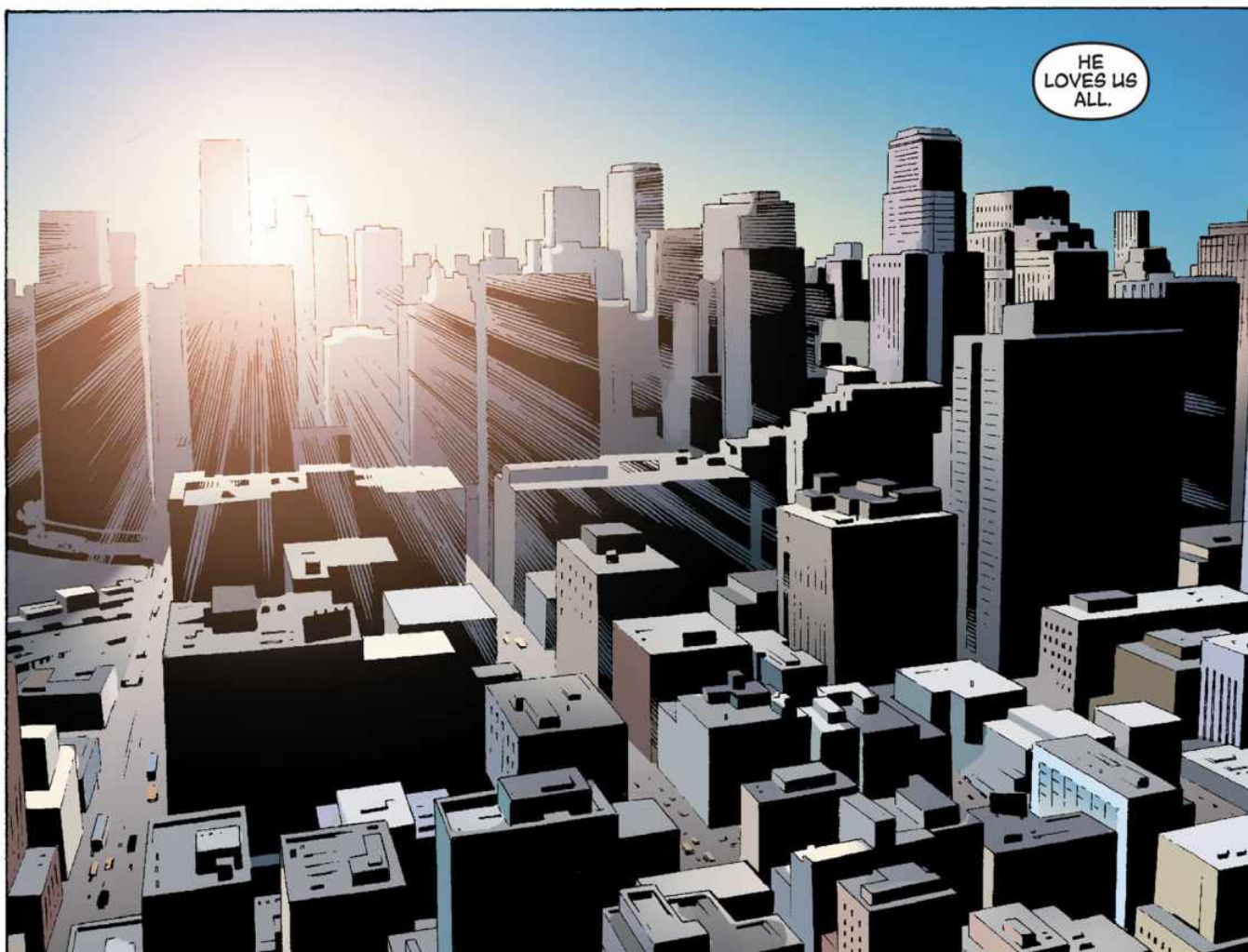


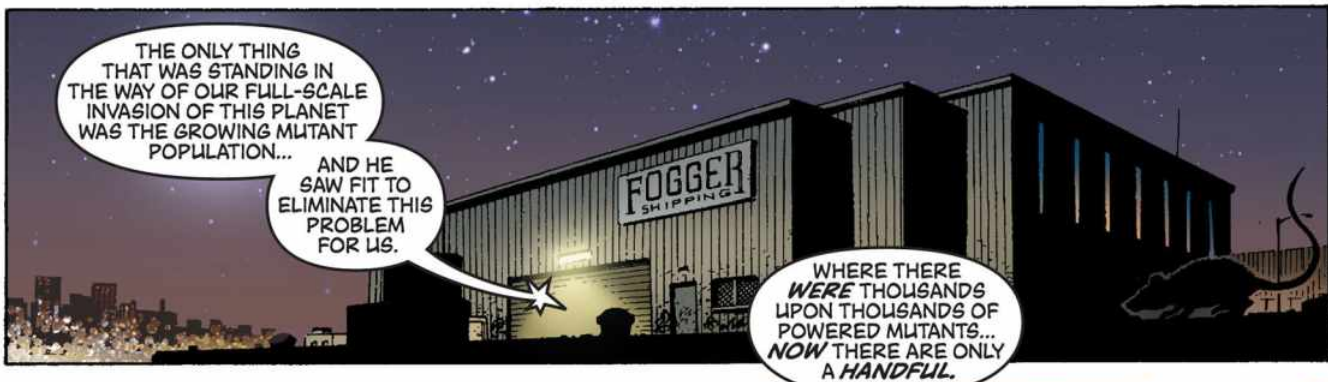




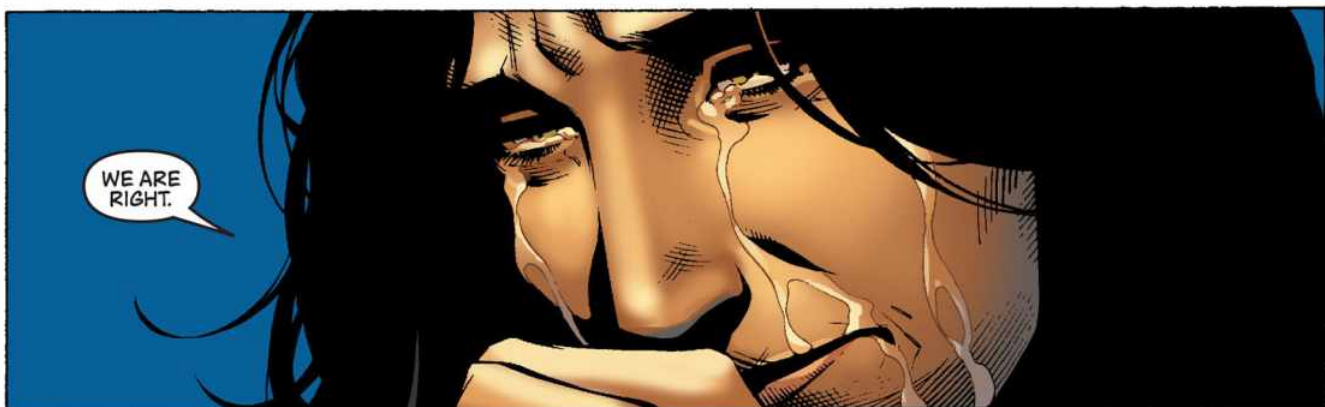














Megan